

Rhode Island Economic Policy Council

Meeting of Council Members

Public Session

May 21, 2008

The Rhode Island Economic Policy Council met on Wednesday, May 21, 2008 in Public Session, at 2:00 p.m., at the offices of the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation, located at 315 Iron Horse Way, Suite 101, Providence, Rhode Island.

The following council members were present and participated throughout the meeting as indicated: Governor Donald L. Carcieri, Majority Leader Gordon Fox, Robert Carothers, Paul Choquette, Paul Cronin, Raymond DiPasquale, Kimball Hall, William Hatfield, Saul Kaplan, John Partridge, Michael Ryan, Gary Sasse, Steven Sepe, Robert Valentini,

Council Members Absent: Senate President Joseph Montalbano, Mayor David Cicilline, Tom Bush, Michael DiBiase, Tim Hebert, Elizabeth Huidekoper, Ron Machtley, Joseph MarcAurele, George Nee, David Rickard, Shivan Subramaniam, George Vecchione, John Hazen White, Jr., Laurie White

Governor Donald L. Carcieri presided over the meeting.

1. Call to Order
Governor Carcieri called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.
2. The Governor explained the rationale for consolidating the council into the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation, and advised the council that the meeting would entail an open discussion on where to jump start economic policy priorities.
3. The Governor opened the general discussion with his goal for aligning all economic groups, such as the council and chambers of commerce, around one economic development strategy.
4. The Governor stated he would elicit advice from the council on how to grow the state's economic base and encouraged members to actively participate with the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation in forming ideas and implementing plans in order to achieve this goal.
5. The Governor stated that the infrastructure needs for the state are large and that a financing structure is required.
6. The Governor stated that many positive strides had been made including tax reform and of over 6 billion dollars of investment in the state.

Prior to adjournment, the Governor requested that the Council meet more frequently than every quarter and suggested every 8 weeks.

There being no further business in Public Session, the meeting was adjourned.